

What is claimed is:

5 1. An electronic device for operation in multiple applications comprising:

Sub a) a body having upper and lower faces relative to usage and a longitudinal axis;

10 a text keyboard mounted for use on said upper surface;

15 a panel connected to the electronic device having a screen on its upper surface for presenting a display to the user for communicating information, said panel slidably mounted above said text keyboard for movement between a first position aligned with said body and a second position extending outward from said body, said panel covering said text keyboard in the first position and exposing said text keyboard in the second position; and

20 at least one side deck constructed in the body adjacent to text keyboard, said side deck providing a surface for mounting keys, buttons, and keypads for use with said device.

25 2. An electronic device for operation in multiple applications, as described in claim 1, wherein said upper face of said body is constructed with a recessed surface with said keyboard mounted thereon and said panel is slidably mounted in said recess.

3. An electronic device for operation in multiple applications, as described in claim 2, wherein said recessed surface is constructed intermediate between the ends of the body and two side decks are constructed on either side of said recessed surface.

4. An electronic device for operation in multiple applications, as described in claim 2, wherein said text keyboard comprises a full function QWERTY key array.

5. An electronic device for operation in multiple applications, as described in claim 2, wherein said panel is mounted for sliding movement transverse to the axis of the device.

6. An electronic device for operation in multiple applications, as described in claim 2, wherein said panel is also mounted for pivotal movement in the second position.

7. An electronic device for operation in multiple applications, as described in claim 2, wherein said device is a mobile communication device and further comprises a communication keypad constructed on said at least one side deck.

8. An electronic device for operation in multiple applications, as described in claim 2, further including a control unit, said control unit operating to rotate the orientation of said display on said screen panel consistent with the operation of the device.

9. An electronic device for operation in multiple applications, as described in claim 8, wherein the display on the screen is rotated 90° between said first and second positions of said screen panel.

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10. An electronic device for operation in multiple applications, as described in claim 2, wherein said orientation is controlled by the positioning of the screen panel.

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11. An electronic device for operation in multiple applications, as described in claim 7, wherein the communication keypad is comprised of keys arranged in a circular pattern.

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12. An electronic device for operation in multiple applications, as described in claim 6, wherein said pivot motion permits the raising of said panel to form an angle with the device to permit better viewing by the user.

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13. An electronic device for operation in multiple applications, as described in claim 6, wherein said pivot motion permits the reversing of said panel so that said screen faces said recessed surface in a protected position.

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14. An electronic device for operation in multiple applications, as described in claim 7, wherein the communications keypad is arranged at a 45° angle.

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15. An electronic device for operation in multiple applications, as described in claim 13, wherein the

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